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Thirty-third Annual Report of the Bombay Smoke-nuisances Commission

For the Year 1945-46

14876

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BOMBAY
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THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOMBAY SMOKE NUISANCES COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 1945-46.

This report covers the period from 1st April 1945 to 31st March 1946. The Commission consisted of the following members :—

President.

(1) Mr. S. V. Joshi, B.A. (Cantab), Commissioner of Labour.	*Ex-officio.*

Members.

(2) Mr. J. F. Paisley, Executive Engineer, Presidency Division.	Do.
(3) Mr. D. V. Kohli (from 1st April 1945 to 21st September 1945). Vacant from 22nd September 1945 to 31st December 1945. Mr. W. F. Fairbairn (from 1st January 1946 to 31st March 1946). (4) Mr. N. K. Patel (from 1st April 1945 to 6th August 1945). Vacant from 7th August 1945 to 31st March 1946).	Nominated by Government.
(5) Mr. H. A. Wood ... ... (6) Mr. W. F. Webb (from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1945). Mr. G. S. Karpur (from 1st January 1946 to 31st March 1946).	Elected by the Millowners' Association, Bombay.
(7) Mr. H. F. Milne (from 1st April 1945 to 16th May 1945). Vacant from 17th May 1945 to 27th July 1945. Mr. J. G. Milne (from 28th July 1945 to 31st December 1945). Mr. H. F. Milne (from 1st January 1946 to 31st March 1946).	Elected by the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

No.........

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR AHMEDABAD.

Chairman.

(1) Mr. J. G. Simms, O.B.E., I.C.S., Collector of Ahmedabad (from 1st April 1945 to 6th June 1945). Mr. D. G. Chambers, I.C.S. (from 7th June 1945 to 1st July 1945). Mr. H. A. Khan, B.A. (from 2nd July 1945 to 20th January 1946). Mr. S. G. Barve, I.C.S. (from 21st January 1946 to 31st March 1946).	*Ex-officio.*

Members.

(2) Rao Bahadur K. J. Gandhi, Executive Engineer, Ahmedabad Division.	*Ex-officio.*
(3) Sheth Shantilal Mangaldas (from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1945). Sheth Navnitlal Sakarlal (from 1st January 1946 to 31st March 1946).	Elected by the Mill-owners' Association, Ahmedabad.
(4) Dr. A. M. Seervai	Elected by the Ahmedabad Municipality.

During the year three meetings of the Commission were held in Bombay and the Sub-Committee met twice in Ahmedabad.

In Bombay, the time of one Inspector was mainly devoted to the smoke nuisances work throughout the year, while in Ahmedabad the work was done by the Resident Inspector and the District Inspector in addition to their boiler inspection duties.

The following table summarises the work of the year and compares it with that of the preceding year, in the two areas :—

Place.	Year.	Observations of chimneys.	Visits to factories.	Tests of appliances.
Bombay	1944-45 ...	3,629	741	37
	1945-46 ...	3,573	727	17
Ahmedabad	1944-45 ...	4,170	747	37
	1945-46 ...	4,575	656	34

The emission of smoke is recorded according to the following table :—

Scale No. 1	White.
" No. 2	Light Grey.
" No. 3	Grey.
" No. 4	Very Dark Grey.
" No. 5	Black.
" No. 6	Dense Black.

For the purpose of smoke nuisances inspection, only Scales Nos. 4, 5 and 6 are important. In Bombay and other areas to which this Act has been applied, the emission of dense black smoke (Scale No. 6) is prohibited. The Scales Nos. 5 and 4 are related to Scale No. 6 as follows :—

One minute of Scale No. 5 (black) is taken as equal to ·55 minute of Scale No. 6 (dense black) and one minute of Scale No. 4 (very dark grey) is taken as equal to ·37 minute of Scale No. 6.

On this basis the average emission of smoke during the year was equal to ·646 minute per hour of dense black smoke for each of 3465 full hour observations of the chimneys in Bombay as compared with ·633 minute in the preceding year.

For each of the 4575 observations of chimneys for one hour at Ahmedabad the average emission of smoke was equal to ·91 minute as compared with ·95 per hour for the preceding year.

There were at the close of the year 1563 stationary chimneys in Bombay Island and Kurla and 173 in Ahmedabad on the registers of the Commission. The above figures represent the number of existing stationary chimneys only, those removed having been struck off the registers. During the year 83 new chimneys were added to the register in Bombay and 3 in Ahmedabad. In Bombay, 10 chimneys were struck off the register and 2 in Ahmedabad. In addition to the registered stationary chimneys, there are many portable chimneys controlled by the Commission such as those connected to Railway Locomotives, road rollers, portable boilers, steam ships and launches etc.

Observations are taken daily of the smoke emitted from various chimneys to see that they do not exceed the limits prescribed under the Rules. For the purpose of comparison and record, a series of observations of one hour duration are taken from which the monthly and annual averages of smoke emission are arrived at. The following table shows the yearly average emission of smoke for ι ombay and Ahmedabad for the first and last five years since the statistics have been maintained :—

Year.	Place.	Scales Nos. 6, 5 and 4 reduced to Scale No. 6, i.e., dense black, minute per hour.
1913 February ...	Bombay ...	11·6
1913 March ...	„ ...	6·5
1914 „ ...	„ ...	1·86
1915 „ ...	„ ...	1·474
1916 „ ...	„ ...	1·432
1917 „ ...	„ ...	1·235
* *	* *	*
1942 March ...	Bombay ...	·597
1943 „ ...	„ ...	·648
1944 „ ...	„ ...	·666
1945 „ ...	„ ...	·633
1946 „ ...	„ ...	·646

Year.	Place.	Scales Nos. 6, 5 and 4 reduced to Scale No. 6, i.e., dense black, minute per hour.
1924, November 1923 to March 1924.	Ahmedabad ...	6·56
1925 March ...	,, ...	3·95
1926 ,, ...	,, ...	3·5
1927 ,, ...	,, ...	2·63
1928 ,, ...	,, ...	2·63
1929 ,, ...	,, ...	2·00
* *	*	* *
1942 March ...	Ahmedabad ...	·87
1943 ,, ...	,, ...	·83
1944 ,, ...	,, ...	·92
1945 ,, ...	,, ...	·95
1946 ,, ...	,, ...	·91

The following number of notices, intimations and statutory warnings were issued during the year :—

—		Notices.	Intimations.	Statutory warnings.
Bombay ...	Factories	278	17	22
	Locomotives	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	Steam Lorries, road rollers, cranes and single boilers.	,,	,,	,,
	Steam ships	,,	,,	,,
	Tugs and Launches	,,	,,	,,
Ahmedabad ...	Factories	376	1	1
	Locomotives	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
	Road Rollers and Cranes ...	,,	,,	,,

Twenty-eight complaints were received from the Bombay Municipality and the public in Bombay during the year as against 17 in the preceding year and all possible steps were taken to minimise the nuisance complained of. The majority of the complaints were mainly against smaller industrial concerns such as metal casting and engineering works, soap factories and bakeries etc.

Only one complaint regarding smoke nuisance was received in Ahmedabad during the year and it was suitably dealt with.

One prosecution under the Act for breach of Rule 26 for emitting smoke at a lower altitude was filed during the year in Bombay, against Messrs. Crescent Trading Co. (A Metal Casting Factory), 6th Kumbharwada, Kharwa Galli, Bombay. No prosecution under the Act was filed at Amedabad during the year.

During the year the Commission examined 15 plans of the proposed flues and chimneys in Bombay, 4 for alterations in the flue arrangements and the remaining 11 for new concerns. Three plans of the proposed flues and chimneys were examined by the Sub-Committee at Ahmedabad, out of which two related to the additions to the existing plants and the third to a new plant.

The provisions of the Bombay Smoke Nuisances Act and the Rules thereunder have been applied from 1st October 1945 to the area covered by the Greater Bombay Laws and the High Court (Declaration of Limits) Act, 1945. The Bombay Smoke Nuisances Commission has decided to increase the present staff of the Smoke Nuisances Department for the proper administration of the Smoke Nuisances Act including the new area. The proposal for the additional staff will be submitted to Government separately.

The thanks of the Commission are due to the mill and factory owners, heads of Engineering Departments, public bodies etc. for their cordial co-operation with the Inspectors in securing the abatement of smoke nuisance by dealing departmentally with the negligent drivers and firemen responsible for causing unnecessary smoke.

As usual the officers of the Bombay Municipality and particularly those of the Health and Licensing Departments gave their full co-operation by forwarding complaints, supplying information regarding new and defective installations and advising complainants to get in touch with the Smoke Nuisances Department to remedy their grievances.

The thanks of the Commission are also due to the Inspecting and clerical staff for the efficient manner in which the work has been carried out throughout the year.

S. V. JOSHI,
Commissioner of Labour and President,
Bombay Smoke Nuisances Commission.

Bombay, 18th June 1946.

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